

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the thorough examination of the present application that is evidenced in the Office Action of March 3, 2004. Applicants also appreciate the allowance of Claims 1-21 and 26-48 and the indication that Claims 24-25 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants response to the Office Action is discussed in detail below.

I. The Rejections of Claims 22-23

Claim 22 stands rejected as anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102 by both U.S. Patent No. 6,037,825 to Kung ("Kung") and U.K. Patent Application 2,291,753 to Blomley. Applicants have amended Claim 22 to recite that the Gilbert Multiplier Cell further comprises "a first current mirror circuit that is coupled to the emitters of the first of the cross-coupled emitter-coupled pairs and a second current mirror circuit that is coupled to the emitters of the second of the cross-coupled emitter-coupled pairs." Applicants respectfully submit that the cited references, either alone or in combination, do not disclose or suggest coupling current mirror circuits to the emitters of each of the cross-coupled emitter-coupled pairs. Accordingly, Claim 22, as amended, is patentable over the cited art.

Claim 23 stands rejected as anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) by Blomley. Claim 23 depends from Claim 22 and hence, in light of the above-described amendment to Claim 22, is patentable over the cited art. Additionally, Applicants have amended Claim 23 to include a recitation that is substantially similar to the recitation of Claim 25, which the Office Action indicates is directed to allowable subject matter. Thus, Claim 23 is also patentable for this additional reason.

II. The Rejections of Claims 49-50

Claim 49 stands rejected as anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102 by both Kung and Blomley. Claim 50, which depends from Claim 49, stands rejected as anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) by Blomley. Applicants have amended Claim 49 to recite that "wherein biasing the Gilbert Multiplier Cell in Class B comprises selectively applying current from at least one current source to the Gilbert Multiplier Cell." Applicants respectfully submit that the cited art, either alone or in combination, does not disclose or suggest the method of amended Claim 49. (*Cf.* Office Action at page 3, indicating that original Claim 24, which

includes a recitation similar to the recitation added to Claim 49, is directed to allowable subject matter). Thus, in the light of the amendment to Claim 49, the rejections of Claims 49 and 50 should now be withdrawn.

III. The Objections to Claims 24-25

Claims 24 and 25 are objected to as depending from a rejected base claim. Applicants have rewritten Claim 24 into independent form, and have amended Claim 25 to depend from Claim 24. Accordingly, both Claims 24 and 25 are now in condition for allowance.

IV. Conclusion

Applicants again wish to thank the Examiner for the thorough examination of the application. Applicants believe that, in light of the present amendments, the claims are all in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions, please feel free to call Applicants representative at (919) 854-1422.

Respectfully submitted,

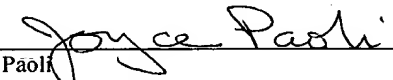


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: , Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on March 30, 2004.



Joyce Paoli
Date of Signature: March 31, 2004